

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

FL 314

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 24 JAN 51

SUBJECT Benzinol, National Corporation, Prague

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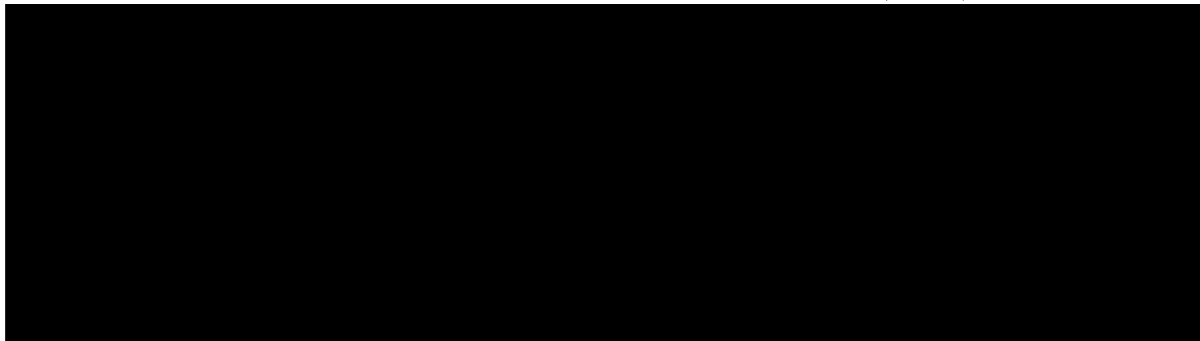
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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



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1. Benzinol, National Corporation with its main offices in Prague, produces and distributes liquid fuels, oils and greases for the whole of Czechoslovakia. Its general manager is Josef Rezek, a Czech who has two deputy managers. The technical director is Ing. Lukas, a Czech. Regional offices, usually located in cities where County National Committees have been established, are subordinate to the central management in Prague. Each regional headquarters has a manager and two deputies, one for administrative affairs and one for technical.
2. Two types of liquid fuel for use in motor vehicles are authorized in Czechoslovakia: gasoline with alcohol and benzol* with alcohol.** Gasoline for trucks is yellow in color and costs 12 Kcs per liter and that for cars is colorless and costs 22 Kcs per liter. The difference in price is a result of the gasoline tax. Gasoline is not rationed.
3. Two mixing stations, one at Most and one at Pardubice, furnish the gasoline for trucks and cars, and these stations receive half of the liquid fuel produced by the Stalin Works at Most. The gasoline is delivered from the mixing stations to the Benzinol storage depots which are usually located in cities having County National Committees. These depots are outmoded and inadequate for present needs, and their underground tanks have a very small capacity. Difficult working conditions as a result of antiquated equipment create a labor shortage since workers sent by the Labor Office are unwilling to work at these depots. In addition, a shortage of railroad tankers interferes with the flow of supply. New depots in all county capitals have been planned, but no new installations have as yet been constructed.
4. From these storage depots the gasoline is transported directly to fuel stations, all of which are in poor condition. The capacity of these stations varies from 1,500 liters to 2,000 liters. A town with a population of 10,000 persons is usually serviced by two stations having a total capacity of 4,000 liters. No new stations have been built. On the contrary, several of them have been dismantled, and the parts are being used for repairs. At some stations women are being employed as attendants.
5. A shortage in gasoline barrels also exists. As a result a penalty has been imposed for failure to return barrels. Gasoline barrels are produced by MEVA at Chotebor.

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[REDACTED]

6. All naphtha is produced synthetically. Some oils are produced synthetically on an experimental basis; the quality of these oils varies and the viscosity is relatively low.

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* [REDACTED] Comment: This is probably benzine.

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** [REDACTED] Comment: Apparently the synthetic gasoline which is produced in Czechoslovakia must be mixed with a highly combustible substance such as alcohol.

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